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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

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August 3, 1983

The Honorable William J. Casey
 Director of Central Intelligence
 Central Intelligence Agency
 Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your letter of July 21, 1983, regarding counter-intelligence.

I appreciate the fact that you are trying to respond to the Committee's interest by establishing a new Intelligence Community Committee on Hostile Intelligence Threat Analysis. Because this Committee is designed to assist and advise you on how we as a Nation assess, analyze, evaluate and report on the "totality of hostile intelligence threats against the United States," it made sense to me that the Chairman would be selected from your staff so that no single agency responsible for counterintelligence would be favored over any other agency in the pursuit of these important issues.

What escapes me, now, is why you have decided to place an FBI officer in charge of this new Committee. This seems to me very much a move in the wrong direction, and I encourage you to reconsider this decision.

Bill, I believe that the person selected to serve as Chairman of this new Committee should be "above the fray." He or she should be someone who has an interest in and experience with counter-intelligence, but someone who is not too closely associated with any particular group with responsibilities for the conduct of counterintelligence activities. In my judgment, the Chairman should be selected from the Intelligence Community Staff, or from those retired from that staff.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,


 Barry Goldwater
 Chairman

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